Bureau of Land Management, Color Country District Fuels Treatment: North Fork Road Kane County, Utah





For Additional Information Contact:

Paul Briggs Bureau of Land Management, Color Country District Fuels Program Manager (435) 865-3002

Project Location: North Fork Road is located approximately 4 miles east of Zion National Park in Utah.

Implementation: This project was implemented in 2008 and will continue through 2010.

Project Size: 100 acres

Project Description:

This vegetation management project will improve watershed conditions, improve crucial mule deer winter range and reduce hazardous fuels within the wildland urban interface. Vegetation in these areas will be removed in a mosaic pattern, leaving islands of treated and untreated vegetation, primarily in the flat terrain. The mechanical thinning of pinyon and juniper trees is one of many treatment options used by land management agencies.

Vegetation will be reduced by a mechanical chipper/shredder, often referred to as a "Bullhog." Removal of encroaching pinyon and juniper will benefit the environment by enabling more productive, desirable grasses, forbs and shrubs to return to the site. To facilitate this, a mix of fire resistant grasses and forbs suitable to the site will be seeded. Seeding will also reduce soil erosion, improve wildlife habitat, improve water quality and quantity, reduce the risk of invading cheatgrass, and lower the risk of wildland fire negatively impacting nearby communities.

This is a cooperative project between Bureau of Land Management, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Utah Department of Agriculture and Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands.

